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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

SS

June 19, 1978

TO: The Deputy Secretary

FROM: HA - Mark L. Schneider

SUBJECT: Improving Human Rights Reporting and Planning

We seek your early approval of a phased process which is designed:

-- to ensure we have adequate and timely information on hand for a thorough consideration of human rights concerns during the FY 80 security and economic assistance budget review process which is scheduled to begin this month.

-- to build on the already expanded reporting from most posts and provide some stimulus to the posts when added reporting on human rights matters might be desired.

-- to encourage the further development by the Regional Bureaus and field posts of human rights programs in countries receiving U.S. assistance.

-- to ensure a mutually supportive relationship between bilateral efforts and our use of and participation in international organizations, including regional organizations.

These objectives are treated in the attached memorandum.

A schedule for the orderly preparation of the 1979 Country Reports is to be the subject of a subsequent tasking. We intend to recommend an earlier start and a less onerous production schedule for the Country Reports than was the case last year, using our last year's experience as a guide.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY R. Valas DATE 12/23/83
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
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The Regional Bureaus (10) and INR agree with these proposals.

I recommend you approve the attached memorandum.

Approve _____

Approved as revised in D ✓

Let's discuss _____

Attachment:

As stated.

Drafted by: HA/HR:SPalmer/MLSchneider:bdr
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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July 3, 1978

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TO: AF - Mr. Moose
ARA - Mr. Bushnell, Acting
EA - Mr. Holbrooke
EB - Mr. Katz
EUR - Mr. Vest
H - Mr. Bennet
HA - Ms. Derian
INR - Ambassador Bowdler
IO - Mr. Maynes
L - Mr. Hansell
PM - Mr. Gelb
S/P - Mr. Lake
NEA - Mr. Saunders

FROM: S/S - Peter Tarnoff

SUBJECT: Improving Human Rights Reporting and Planning

In order to continue the recent improvements in human rights reporting from posts abroad and to use this reporting effectively in implementing our human rights policy, the Deputy Secretary has asked that the following steps be taken:

-- that INR should prepare by August 1 brief summaries of significant human rights events since January 1, 1978 in countries selected by the Regional Bureaus in coordination with HA. IO and the relevant Regional Bureaus should inform INR of any significant actions taken in multilateral organizations since January 1 with respect to the human rights situation in the selected countries.

-- that the Regional Bureaus, in coordination with HA, INR, IO, and L should review their posts' human rights reporting and provide posts with additional guidance and feedback to close significant gaps. The need for periodic reports should be considered, particularly where human rights conditions are changing, where such conditions are a significant impediment in our bilateral relationship, or where reporting has been minimal. Posts should also be

asked for their views on what can realistically be expected in the way of human rights improvements. Posts should be encouraged to solicit the views of AID and ICA personnel abroad on human rights conditions. Any additional instructions should go to the field by July 20.

-- that the Regional Bureaus in consultation with the relevant functional bureaus should provide to HA by August 13 a one or two page summary for selected countries of steps taken and planned for integrating human rights concerns into the development and implementation of our economic, security, cultural and other bilateral and multilateral programs and policies for those countries. The Bureaus may suggest formats they deem most appropriate for these summary programs.